Revision Cards

Charlotte Perriand was a designer and architect. Her work is regarded as modern and stylish today, as it was in the first half of the twentieth century. As a student, she studied furniture design at the 'School of the Central Union of Decorative Arts', in Paris. She aimed to design affordable furniture, that could be mass produced for a wide and varied customer base. Her early designs were regarded as radical and initially, were not commercially successful. She became one of the most influential, innovative designers, of the twentieth-century.

Charlotte Perriand often worked with Pierre Jeanneret and another famous French designer, Le Corbusier, in the late 1920s and early 1930s. They co-designed a number of commercially successful pieces of furniture, largely manufactured by a company called Cassina. The LC4 Chaise Longue (Lounge) Chair of 1928, was an innovation in design.

Some Other Perriand Designs

LC7 Swivel Armchair - 1928
LC2 Armchair - 1929
Nuage Bookcase Range - 1950s

LC4 Chaise Longue (Lounge) Chair Model B306 - 1928
Your teacher will identify the designers you are to study for your examination. It is strongly advised that you study all the designers.

Each set of revision cards is composed of information and questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESIGNER</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHILIPPE STARCK</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHARLOTTE PERRIAND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZAHA HADID</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOCK KINNEIR AND MARGARET CALVERT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUDWIG MIES VAN DER ROHE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICHAEL THONET</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EILEEN GRAY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BETHAN GRAY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARCEL BREUER</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROBIN DAY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OWEN MACLAREN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHARLES RENNIE MACKINTOSH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARRY BECK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETTORE SOTTSASS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PHILIPPE STARCK - 1
A recognised designer since the 1980s. In the late 1960s, he established an inflatable furnishings company.

By the 1970s, Starck had set up his own design studio in Paris (Starck Products), building a reputation as a pioneer in the world of design. He initially concentrated on interior designs and later products.

His designs can be regarded as post modern and include elements of the Memphis design movement, pop art and surrealism, with a hint of humour, environmental awareness, not to mention, invention.

PHILIPPE STARCK - 2
Starck first achieved international attention by refurbishing French President François Mitterrand's, private apartment in the Elysee Palace, in 1982.

He has designed products for well-known companies such as Alessi, Kartell, Microsoft and Puma. Starck designed the interiors for night clubs (La Main Bleue 1976), hotels (Royalton 1988 and Paramount hotels 1990, in New York) and restaurants (Café Costes 1984).

Starck is an idealist and designs products, that are affordable and desirable to a mass market. Starck calls this 'democratic design', the aim being to improve life, for the greatest number of people.

SAMPLE PHILIPPE STARCK DESIGNS

‘Juicy Salif’ - Citrus Squeezer (1990) is a design classic and an iconic product.

The world's first polycarbonate chair, the ‘La Marie Chair’ in 1998, for Kartell of Italy.

Starck's computer mouse, commissioned by Microsoft in 2004. Ergonomically designed, being comfortable in the right or left hand.

1. Who is Philippe Starck and why do his designs attract attention? 3 marks

2. How did Starck first gain international attention? 2 marks

3. Select one of Starck's designs and explain why you think it is iconic / a design classic. 3 marks
1. Who was Charlotte Perriand and where did she study? Were her early designs successful? (explain your answer).

Charlotte Perriand was a designer and architect. Her work is regarded as modern and stylish today, as it was in the first half of the twentieth century.

As a student, she studied furniture design at the ‘School of the Central Union of Decorative Arts’, in Paris. She aimed to design affordable furniture, that could be mass produced for a wide and varied customer base. Her early designs were regarded as radical and initially, were not commercially successful. She became one of the most influential, innovative designers, of the twentieth century.

2. Charlotte Perriand often collaborated with two other designers. What are their names?

Charlotte often worked with Pierre Jeanneret and another famous French designer, Le Corbusier, in the late 1920s and early 1930s. They co-designed a number of commercially successful pieces of furniture, largely manufactured by a company called Cassina. The LC4 Chaise Longue (Lounge) Chair of 1928, was an innovation in design.

3. Research the work of Charlotte Perriand. Then, select one design you like. Paste an image of your selected design, on the back of this sheet. Add notes, explaining the features / characteristics of the design.

LC4 CHAISE LONGUE (LOUNGE) CHAIR
MODEL B306 - 1928

LC7 SWIVEL ARMCHAIR - 1928
LC2 ARMCHAIR - 1929

NUAGE BOOKCASE RANGE - 1950s
1. Who was Zaha Hadid and what did she achieve in the world of architecture?  

Zaha Hadid was an internationally recognised Iraqi-British Architect, responsible for a variety of outstanding buildings and other structures, often based on unusual geometrical shapes. She received a number of prestigious awards for her innovative architectural designs, including on two occasions, the Stirling Prize. She was the first female architect to receive the Royal Gold Medal (awarded by the Royal Institute of British Architects).

She came to London to study architecture in 1972, at the highly respected Architectural Association School of Architecture. After graduating, she worked in the Netherlands, although she started to build her reputation teaching Architecture in England, the USA and Germany, promoting an innovative and imaginative approach to the design of buildings. Many of her early designs were not built, undoubtedly due to the lack of foresight and ambition of potential clients, who selected more conservative and less imaginative architects.

She established her own company - Zaha Hadid Architects, in 1979.

2. Research Zaha Hidid's architectural work. Select one piece of her architecture. Carry out further research on your selected building / structure. Then, on the back of this sheet, attach an image of the building / structure. Why does this piece of architecture impress you?

Vitra Factory Fire Station - 1993
Bergisel Ski Jump 2002
Sheikh Zayed Bridge, Abu Dhabi - 2010
London Aquatics Centre - 2012

For more detail on Zaha Hadid and other designers go to the 'Designers' section of www.technologystudent.com

8 marks
1. Why was it necessary to design standardised road signs, for the motorways and other roads?

2 marks

2. Describe two characteristics of Kinneir's and Calvert's signage. What was the reasoning behind the characteristics?

4 marks
LUDWIG MIES VAN DER ROHE - 1

The German architect Ludwig Mies Van Der Rohe, designed the pavilion (exhibition stand) for the 1929 Barcelona world fair.

The pavilion was to house manufactured German products, to promote German design, engineering and technology, in the same way trade fairs do today. His ‘Barcelona Chair’ (also called the Pavilion Chair) was designed between 1928 and 1929. It was one of the German exhibits at the Barcelona world fair. It quickly became known as a classic modernist design. He became director of architecture at the Bauhaus in 1930.

THE BARCELONA CHAIR

The original chair - each side frame was manufactured from two pieces of steel welded together and then ‘bolted’ together. In the 1950s stainless steel, a new material in furniture manufacture, was used for the construction of the frames. The adoption of stainless steel meant that the frame could be manufactured in one piece, without joint lines. It was mass produced in 1950s by ‘Knoll’ furniture manufacturers and this continues today.

1. Ludwig Mies Van Der Rohe became the director of a famous Design School. What was it called?

2. The Barcelona Chair was designed by Ludwig Mies Van Der Rohe. It has another name, what is it?

3. Write a description of the Barcelona Chair

4. Name two other pieces of furniture designed by Ludwig Mies Van Der Rohe. Include the date of their design.
1. What type of product did Michael Thonet design and manufacture? 2 marks

2. The Thonet No14 Chair was supplied in disassembled form (in parts). What was the advantage of this approach? 2 marks

3. How did the philosophy of the Thonet Company differ from that of the Arts and Crafts Movement? 3 marks
1. Write a few facts about Eileen Gray.  

Eileen Gray, a modernist designer, born in Ireland in 1878. She was an artist, interior designer and architect. Trained in London, but spent most of her time in France.

Very few women worked in design during the early twentieth century, as this profession was male dominated.

Her work can be regarded as both functional and artistic. Much of her work was at the leading edge of the modernist movement and was influenced in particular, by the Art Deco design movement.

2. Select one of her iconic designs. Name and describe the design. Sketch it on the back of this paper.  

Eileen Gray - Designer

The Bibendum Chair

In a modernist in style, very different to traditional designs of the same period. It has a simple and functional form and is a timeless design, still popular today and regarded as a classic, iconic design. Chromed steel frame and curved leather tubing, giving rise to an extremely comfortable seating position.

The name for the chair was taken from the Michelin man, a character developed to sell tyres.

Eileen Gray - The E1027 Table

Designed in 1929 - still manufactured today. It is another Eileen Gray piece of furniture that has become a design icon/classic.

Height adjustable. The stand is composed of two ‘telescopic’ sliding tubes, with a pin on a chain, used to lock them in position.

High grade tubular stainless steel and tempered glass, provide a quality finish.
1. Describe Bethan Gray’s early work as a designer.  

A Welsh Designer, with a Persian ancestry, from an Artistic and creative family. She studied 3D Design at De Montford University (Leicester) and tends to focus mainly on contemporary furniture. She forged her early career with Habitat and became head of Habitat's furniture department, leading a design team, that was extremely successful, in designing a number of furniture collections, between 2004 to 2008.

2. List five characteristics of Bethan Gray’s designs.  

- Deceptive simplicity.
- Contemporary nature, embracing a range of styles.
- A very high standard of manufacture, blending high quality ‘luxury’ natural materials, with craft skills and modern industrial processes.
- Elegant outcomes.
- Often inspired by culture, having travelled extensively in Asia, the Middle East, Africa and America.
- Aesthetically pleasing, stylish and tactile.
1. Write three facts about Marcel Breuer.  

2. What are the characteristics of Marcel Breuer’s designs?  

3. Name and describe a product designed by Marcel Breuer.
1. Who was the designer Robin Day?

Robin Day, trained at the Royal College of Art in the 1930s. He was a furniture designer, best known for his innovative design of the Polyprop Chair in 1963. This was manufactured from polypropylene, through injection moulding. This design became a trend setter for cheap, quality, mass manufactured, stackable chairs. Over 30 million have now been sold.

2. Why was the Polyprop Chair innovative, in the 1960s?

Probably one of the most used chairs in the world is Robin Day’s Polyprop Chair of 1963, which continues to be manufactured to this day.

Although the design has slowly evolved over the years, it is very popular as a stackable chair in schools, universities, canteens and conference venues.

Revolutionary design, with a one piece seat and backrest, manufactured through injection moulding. Required extensive research into ergonomics, before the manufacturing process could begin.

High impact resistant polypropylene, is used for the seat and tubular steel for the frame. This means that the chair is cheap and can be mass produced.
1. What was Owen Maclaren’s background, in the field of engineering?  

Owen Maclaren is best known for his innovative design of a lightweight folding baby carrier. In addition, he designed the undercarriage of the famous Spitfire. The new undercarriage design allowed the plane to manoeuvre whilst on the ground and the wheels to fold into the wings, creating an aerodynamic shape. He applied his knowledge of folding lightweight tubular structures, to that of children’s push chairs.

2. Why can the Maclaren B01 Folding Push Chair, be regarded as an iconic design?

The Maclaren B01, is lightweight due to its aluminium structure. It folds to a manageable size because of innovative design and can be carried by one hand. Ideal for getting on and off buses or folding and placing in a car boot. After the introduction of the Maclaren B01, aluminium was considered, as the main material for many other products. The Maclaren B01 'stood out' from other similar products, in the 1960s and is still in production today (albeit, an improved version). It has stood the test of time, which is another characteristic of an iconic product.
1. Write a brief description of the contribution made by Charles Rennie Mackintosh, to design.  

2. Charles Rennie Mackintosh’s designs are famous. His chairs are distinctive and easy to recognise. What are the key features of his chair designs?
1. Write three facts about Harry Beck, including one about his iconic London Underground Map.  

2. List four characteristics of the underground map.  

3. Why can Beck’s map be regarded as an iconic design?
THE MEMPHIS GROUP
Established in the 1980s. Composed of designers based in Italy. Memphis designers regarded aesthetics as the most important aspect of a product, not its function. Memphis designs/products can be regarded as pieces of art or exhibition pieces, not useable, practical items.

The best known ‘Memphis’ designer was, Ettore Sottsass.

ETTORE SOTTSASS
Ettore Sottsass led the Memphis design group. He designed products that were unusual, with bright colour schemes, producing imaginary designs for everyday objects.

His designs were controversial and unusual.

This Ceramic Totem was designed by Sottsass, as part of the Memphis Group. 171cm in height. The ceramic finish is coated in polychrome glazes, producing a colourful reflective surface.

1. In what decade was Memphis design most popular? ________________________________________________________________________________ 1 marks

2. For a Memphis designer, how important is a product’s aesthetics compared to it’s functions? ________________________________________________________________________________ 3 marks

3. Who was Ettore Sottsass? __________________________________________________________________________________________________________ 1 marks

4. Name and describe one of Ettore Sottsass’s designs? __________________________________________________________________________________ 3 marks